

SCDXC Newsletter



The Southern California DX Club is a group of dedicated men and women active in the amateur radio community who enjoy communicating over the air with other radio amateurs around the world.

The SCDXC strongly supports the DX Code of Conduct. Please visit their website:

www.dx-code.org

The SCDXC newsletter is published monthly and released to club members around the first of each month. Amateur and DX related letters, news and pictures are welcome and will be published as time and space permit.

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Any questions regarding this newsletter or its articles should be addressed to the Editor, Bill, N6RV at:

n6rv@scdxc.org

Club meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM except April, June and March. Please check the club web site for events and details at: <http://www.scdxc.org>
If you are in the area please say hello on our repeater:

W6AM/R 145.48, (-) PL 100.0

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*If you need him get in
there and work him"*



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visalia International DX Convention 2018

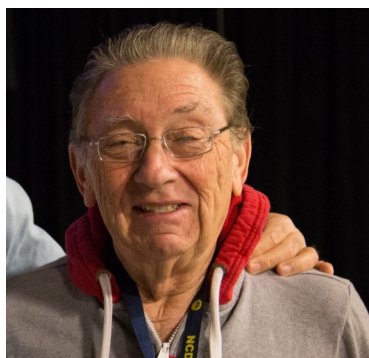
The fourth convention meeting is over. Now it gets serious. We still need help. The third committee meeting will be held at the WEMS on March 17 at 10 AM. This is an important one. Please plan to attend!

Don Miller (below) is looking for a ride and to share a room at the convention. If interested or you have an assistance request please contact n6rv@dxconvention.org.



This Month's Program

Don Miller, AE6IY, W9WNV



At the 2017 Holiday party we poled the attendees asking if they ever heard of Don Miller. To our surprise maybe only three raised their hands. Many not so recent members of our community are not familiar with Don, his adventures and triumphs in DXing.

Don is a DX icon, a veritable living legend. Martti Lane, OH2BH, credits Don as the inspiration for his long DXpeditioning career. Throughout the 60s and 70s Don, like his contemporaries, Gus Browning, and Danny Weil, travelled with radio in hand from rare entity to rare entity most of the time with just enough resources to make ends meet. Some would call it going native. It was a rough and tumble time where the concept of DXpeditioning was in its infancy and competition to find and activate new entities was fierce. Even more fierce was the competition to work a new one! The pile ups were daunting, and the tricksters were in the weeds, making every attempt to discredit others and maintain their preeminence.

Don and his friends were on the road for many years following the DXers dream, seeing the world, putting up a station and passing out QSOs. His expeditions include the following: 1964 South East Asia DXpedition, 1965 Asia-Pacific DXpedition, and 1966 Asia-Pacific Expedition as well as many short jaunts well into the 1970s.

Don activated over 45 countries (left) during his whirlwind tours around the globe many of them for the first time (red). See any you need?

Join us as Don regales us with his adventures, joys, and tragedies. It will be a meeting you will regret not attending.

DX IS!

Don's 28 Rarest DXpeditions Credited by ARRL for DXCC

BY4SK *	China ***
FK8AU	New Caledonia
FW8ZZ *	Wallis Is.
HL9KH	Korea
KG61D *	Parece Vela
	(Minami Torishima)
K7LMU/HS	Thailand
K7LMU/3W89 *	Vietnam
1S9WNV *	Spratly Is.
5R8BA	Malagasy Republic
5W1AD	Western Samoa
VK2ADY/9 *	Cocos-Keeling Is.
VQ8AA	Seychelles
VQ8AAD *	Desroches Is.
VQ8CB	Mauritius
VQ8CBB *	St. Brandon
VQ8CB/F *	Farquhar Is.
VQ8CBR *	Rodriguez Is.
VR2EW	Fiji
VR5AB	Tonga
W9WNV/KG6R *	Rota Is.
W9WNV/XU *	(Marianas Trust)
W9WNV/ZK1S	Cambodia
W9WNV/ZM7 *	No. Cook Is.
W9WNV/8F *	Tokelau
XW8BF	Indonesia
XZ2TZ *	Laos
YJ8WW	Burma
ZK2AF *	New Hebrides Is.
	Niue Is.

3 Legitimate New / Top 5 Operations Not Credited by ARRL for DXCC:

K1IMP/KC4 *	Navassa
VQ8AA/C *	Chagos
VU2WNV *	Laccadives

(Excludes 9 discredited entities and 18 common/temporary locations)

(indicates 19 new country or estimated in the top 5 most wanted (at the time))*

From the Desk of the President

Mel Hughes, K6SY

2018
Board of Directors

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Mel Hughes K6SY

Vice President

Kris Jacob KC6TOD

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Director

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Jerry Robinson K6AV

Director (Past President)

Doug Dowds W6HB

APPOINTEES

Repeater Chair

Chip Angle N6CA

Newsletter Editor

Bill Kendrick N6RV

Webmaster

Jim Shryne N6DHZ

I hope the New Year has treated you well thus far. The Hughes household is hanging in there. The antennas survived the latest winds. The 25 mph wind alarm sounded steadily for several hours while I was at work. Doris didn't know how to turn it off. SHE DOES NOW! Hell hath no fury like an angry wife!

Planning for the IDXC 2018 seems to be going well. We've had Saturday Banquet seating requests for nearly 200 guests to date and more come in daily. If you haven't sent in your seating request do it now before the best seats are gone. Convention registrations are now in excess of 300.

My Flex 6500 continues to work as advertised and with the Smart Link software I never have to leave my office to operate my home station. Since going to the Galapagos Islands at Christmas I've added the ability to remotely turn the station power on and off so Doris doesn't worry about leaving the equipment on while we are away. I'm looking forward to trying from it from Europe this summer as we cruse the Rhine and Danube River's from Amsterdam to the Black Sea.

I was able to use Carl and Cathy's Flex for a short period during the 160 meter Phone Contest thanks again to Smart Link. They have much better receiving antennas for 160 meters than I do.

Don't forget the next SCDXC meeting is only 9 days away, March 8 with the IDXC replacing the April meeting. See you all March 8 and again in Visalia, April 20, 21, & 22.

73,

Mel - K6SY



The UNLIKELY IDXC CREW! (less a few)
We will be taking a group photo at the next committee meeting

VP Notes

Kris Jacob, KC6TOD

Greetings to All,

Our February meeting was a huge success. Tim Duffy from DX Engineering offered a great presentation as well as staying up on East Coast time. Dinner prior to our meeting at the Sizzler had a great turnout better than 25 people; it was hard to count with everyone moving around.

The guest speaker for our March 8th, will be great... I am hoping for a great turnout. Bill N6RV has taken the time to introduce and create a terrific BIO on Don Miller W9WNV. Please take the time to read his BIO.

The best is yet to come, the International DX Convention in Visalia, April 20th – 22nd at the Visalia Convention Center. ... Registrations are rolling in. Rooms are still available, check the website. Bill Kendrick N6RV has lined up great speakers for the daytime programs.

We are very disappointed and saddened for all the hard work done by the Bouvet 3YOZ team and that they had to return home. We must be grateful that they have all returned home safely.

Mark your calendars, our annual picnic will be Sunday, June 10th, 2018 at Woodley Park. This year is the SCDXC's year to host the annual Summer Bash on Sunday, August 12th, it will be at our home KC6TOD & N6VNI! Our Christmas/Chanukah Party will be held on Sunday, December 16th at the Reef Restaurant.

Please note your calendar for all these events, we as your board have tried to plan in advance for all our special occasions.

73 and Good Dxing!
Kris Jacob
KC6TOD

March Calendar

March 3	ARRL DX Contest, SSB
March 3	Ukraine RTTY Championship
March 8	SCDXC Club Meeting
March 10	Stew Perry Top Band Challenge
March 17	CQWW WPX Contest, SSB
March 31	UK/EI DX Contest, CW
March 31	Russian WW MultiMode Contest

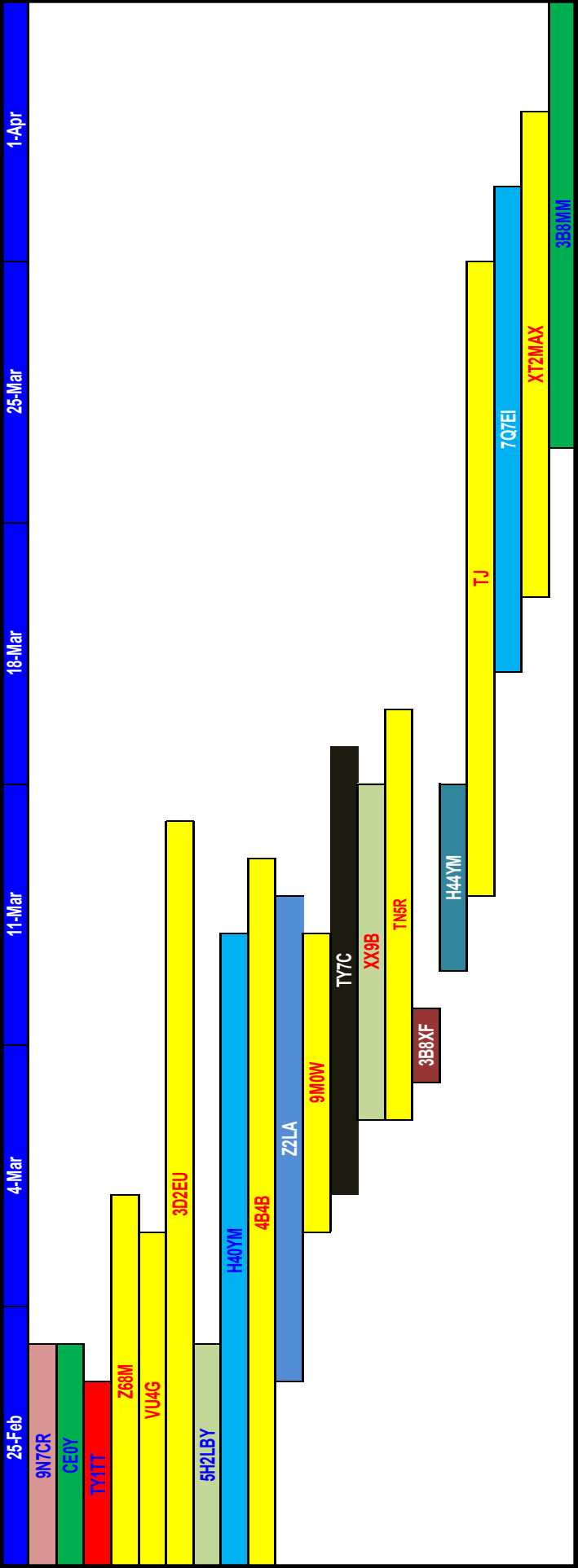
For more contest Info see: <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>

Rumors on the Band

Did you work Kosovo? They showed up almost without notice. This month we have several very rare entities being activated. Also do not forget the ARRL SSB DX Contest this weekend. It is bound to be full of DX!

QTH	Call	Start Date	End Date	Information
Nepal	9N7CR	Now	1-Mar	KE5GD 20 SSB
Benin	TY1TT	Now	28-Feb	ON6DX 160-6m, mainly 160-30m CW SSB RTTY
Easter Island	CE0Y	Now	28-Feb	DF8AN RTTY FT8
Kosovo	Z68M	Now	6-Mar	Z32M 160 - 10m CW SSB RTTY FT8 JT65
Andaman & Nicobar	VU4G	Now	5-Mar	G4IRN 40 - 17m CW
Rotuma	3D2EU	Now	16-Mar	3D2AG DJ9RR DK2AMM DL6JGN PA3EWP 160-10m CW SSB
Tanzania	5H2LBY	Now	2-Mar	KG7LBY 40 20m FT8 SSB QRP
Temotu	H40YM	Now	13-Mar	VA7YM
Revilla Gigedo	4B4B	1-Mar	15-Mar	XE1B 160 - 6m SSB
Zimbabwe	Z2LA	3-Mar	11-Mar	LA7THA LA7WCA LA9VPA 160 - 10m SSB CW
Spratly Islands	9M0W	6-Mar	13-Mar	YT1AD HL5FUA K9JM YT3W ZL3WW K1LZ K1ZM JT1CO F6GNZ PY2XB KO8SCA WD5COV W5XU VK3FY VK3FN SV2GWY 9M6ABZ 9M6RHM 9M6ZAE 160-6m CW SSB Digital
Benin	TY7C	7-Mar	18-Mar	F1ULQ F4AZF & Team 160 - 10m CW SSB RTTY PSK PSK FT8
Macao	XX9B	9-Mar	17-Mar	XX9LT PP1CZ PR7AB PY2MC PY2SEX PY2WAS PY3MM PY4BZ PY5HSD PY5KD PY6RT PY7XC VU3RSB 160-10m
Congo	TN5R	9-Mar	19-Mar	EA1SA EA5KM EA7AJR EA7KW F9IE F8ATS HK6F IK5RUN IN3ZNR JH4RHF EA5RM 160-10m CW SSB RTTY
Mauritius	3B8XF	10-Mar	11-Mar	W0ZRJ KH6OO 20 - 10m CW
Solomon Is	H44YM	13-Mar	17-Mar	VA7YM
Cameroon	TJ	15-Mar	31-Mar	I2YSB
Malawi	7Q7EI	21-Mar	3-Apr	EI DX Group 160 - 10m SSB CW RTTY
Burkina Faso	XT2MAX	23-Mar	2-Apr	DK1MAX
Mauritius	3B8MM	27-Mar	11-Apr	DL6UAA 40 - 10m CW Digital

DX for March



DX Standings

Wouldn't you know it! Just as soon as the standings are updated a new entity shows up. With the convention work and the newsletter you will not be seeing the update anytime soon, maybe June. Actually if the ARRL does not update their standings we cannot either.

Red represents members who have all current entities (#1 Honor Roll)

Blue Represents members who have 330 entities or above (Honor Roll).

Black is everyone else.

Send any updates to:

N6RV@SCDXC.org

SCDXC WAZ and DXCC Standings

The first WAZ column is the confirmed zone count on 10 bands 160 - 6 (less 60 meters). The second column is the regular 5BWAZ confirmed count. The following are the codes that follow the two columns and indicate the awards:

M	Mixed
P	Phone
C	CW
R	RTTY
5	5 Band

The first DXCC column is the confirmed entity count with deleted countries. The second column is the confirmed current entity count. The third column is the challenge slots.

The members highlighted in **Red** are at the top of the Honor Roll. Those in **Blue** are on the Honor Roll

SCDXC Southern California Members Standings 2018								WAZ Standings		
	DXCC				DXCC			Call	10B / 5B	Awards
DXCC	Total	Current	Slots	DXCC	Total	Current	Slots			
W6KH	388	339		KJ6Y	326	324	1312	K6ND	378 / 200	M/5
K6KII	387	339		AC6DX	322	320	1898	W6SR	369 / 200	M/P/C/I/5
JA1BK	382	339		N6NPG	319	317		K6FG	365 / 198	M/P/C/R/5
K6YRA	377	339		AK6I	316	314	1126	WA5VGI	358 / 200	M/P/C/5
OH2BH	377	339		W1YL	315	312		W8DX	357 / 200	M/5
ON4UN	372	339		N6GP	314	292	1583	EU7SA	357 / 200	M/5
K6EXO	371	339		KC6T	314	312		N6AW	355 / 200	M/P/C/5
N6UC	368	339		W6HB	311	308	1029	NS6C	345 / 200	
W6BCQ	365	339	1600	N6VNI	310	308	1475	K6YRA	337 / 200	P/5
K6YUI	365	339		K6TX	307	300		K6YUI	337 / 200	M/P/C/R/5
DJ9ZB	365	339		NK6A	303	297	957	WD6L	248 / 200	M/P/5
K6IPV	362	334	1800	W3SE/ZL3TE	295	293	1413	N6OU	220 / 200	M/5
NS6C	360	339	2282	N6DHZ	292	290	1008	K6UNR	/ 200	M/P/5
K6SMF	360	337		N6UOZ	280	280		W6VX	352 / 199	
W6HT	358	339		KT6LA	279	277	1039	K6GXO	358 / 198	M
W6SR	358	339	2822	WA6WXD	274	272		W6ENZ	347 / 197	
N4XX	358	339		K7MY	267	265	831	SM5GMZ	345 / 196	M/P/C
WA6WZO	357	339		K6VC	259	256		N6MXU	155 / 193	
K6FG	356	339	2747	N6WT	257	257	1071	K2PLF	191 / 191	
K8RD	356	339		W6DOE	244	242	1005	N6RV	302 / 187	M/P/C
KR6C	355	338	1990	KQ6K	243	241		KC6X	294 / 187	M/P/C/5
K6GXO	355	339	2633	N6VOH	243	241		N6QQ	325 / 186	M/P/C/R
N6RV	355	338	2050	K6SS	242	240		K6LD	314 / 186	M/P/C
W6IRD	354	337		W6LEN	236	209	656	W6YOO	308 / 185	M/P/C/5
K5KT	354	339		K6JEY	234	230		KH6DX/m	210 / 184	
W6OU	354	335	1436	K6IRD	233	230		KH6MB	304 / 179	5
N6QQ	353	337	2206	N6HE	228	195	636	K0OK	286 / 173	
W6TJI	353	337		N6AA	222	218		K6SY	246 / 173	P
W8DX	352	339	2519	K6AWB	219	217		W6ZPL	237 / 173	M/P
N7NR	350	336	1123	W6WVW	210	208		KJ6Y	261 / 172	
W6TK	350	339	1911	K6DDJ	204	201	534	KR6C	295 / 171	M/C
W6VX	349	339	2772	KK6FJQ	202	200	149	AD6KQ	226 / 164	
KC6X	349	328	1995	W6KC	201	200	571	N6DHZ	214 / 160	P
W6YOO	349	338		N6PZK	201	198		K6KII	191 / 177	M
W6ENZ	348	338	2393	W6JEA	195	193		W6DR	227 / 159	
N6HC	348	339	2280	NE6V	193	193	554	NK6A	152 / 152	M/5
W6KK	348	339	1822	K6QU	174	86	157	W6NRQ	180 / 147	M/P
N6WS	348	336	2016	KB6CIO	167	164		WA6BOB	152 / 136	M
AI6Z	348	329	2166	KF6I	166	162		W6IRD	151 / 111	M/P
N6IC	347	336		N6PM	164	163	455	W5DQ	161 / 122	
K6ND	347	339	2558	AA6VX	156	155	389	K6IRD	154 / 126	M/P
WA5VGI	347	339	2738	W6EA	152	149		WB6PSY	139 / 140	P
N6HY	345	337	2443	W6QE	149	149	224	KT6LA	132 / 103	
SM5GMZ	344	333	2275	AB9A	141	139		N6HE	130 / 138	
K6LPO	344	330	1236	N6DBF	134	134	374	W3SE	102 / 112	
N6PE	344	331	1697	N6RU	127	126	261	K6IRA	118 / 102	
N6PEQ	343	336	1908	K6DSW	122	122		K6VC	96 / 96	P
K7ACZ	341	324	1756	KC6TOD	120	119		W6EA	92 / 86	
KM6HB	341	334	1890	K6MKL	115	115		N6UC	78 / 78	M
W6FL	339	334	1129	KA6D	107	107		KA6TTV	82 / 67	
W6SW	338	330	551	N6LL	105	105		N6VNI	86 / 64	
W6ZPL	338	335		K6BBC	103	103		N6RRY	74 / 64	
N6XT	337	330		N6HD	101	101		N6GIL	49 / 43	
K2IXQ	336	331	1728	NQ6L	100	100		W6DCK	40 / 40	P
K6RO	336	334	1531	K7LA	100	100	1768	K6JW	40 / 40	M/P
N6MXU	333	330	1387	WA6MEM	100	100		K6YR	39 / 39	
K6SY	333	323	1037	K6SBA	100	100		W6DOE	37 / 37	
KØOK	329	327	1680	K9TAD	51	51	65	NZ6L	36 / 36	
N6AX	327	325	1114	KE6PLA	45	45	96	W4EF	29 /	
W6DR	327	322	1405	WZ6D	36	36	52	N6AWD		M
K6JW	327	321	1081	KK6ABZ	13	13		N6HC		M/P/C
AA6PW	326	324	1632					KB6KTV		P
								W6OES		M
								K8RD		C

2018 Get Schroeder Contest

2017 Get Schroeder Leaders						
2018 Entities Worked by SCDXC						205
2018 ClubLog Leaders						242
2017 SCDXC Members						281
2017 SCDXC Leaders (N6RV)						263
2017 ClubLog Leaders						289
Rank	Call	Entities	Delta	Missed	-QO	Uniques
1	N6WT	186	69	19	-33	1
2	N6WS	179	64	26	-26	2
3	W6OU	161	64	44	-8	0
4	N6QQ	153	46	52	0	0
5	W6TK	148	50	57	5	0
6	N6RV	146	53	59	7	0
7	WA5VGI	130	58	75	23	0
8	KC6X	121	47	84	32	0
9	W6DR	105	95	100	48	0

SCDXC Get Schroeder Standings 2018													
Rank	Call	160	80	60	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	Total
1	N6WT	16	25	0	96	39	154	29	39	0	0	0	186
2	N6WS	30	43	2	113	66	138	45	45	6	9	0	179
3	W6OU	2	8	0	43	8	108	8	6	1	0	1	161
4	N6QQ	0	32	0	91	63	118	44	29	2	1	3	153
5	W6TK	8	34	0	99	20	116	19	38	0	4	0	148
6	N6RV	0	0	0	100	31	90	14	37	0	4	0	146
7	WA5VGI	21	16	0	1	24	109	25	31	0	0	0	130
8	KC6X	9	45	0	79	53	89	56	27	5	3	0	121
9	W6DR	30	45	0	92	1	86	0	43	0	2	0	105
10	W6M KO	0	11	0	50	4	56	14	2	0	0	0	90
11	K7ACZ	1	8	0	24	7	73	6	2	0	0	0	90
12	AI6Z	1	12	0	33	2	61	0	13	0	1	0	82
13	N6PM	0	1	0	22	18	25	49	13	1	2	0	80
14	W6SR	4	12	0	22	1	58	0	31	0	2	0	67
15	SM5GMZ	38	24	0	5	3	3	7	1	0	0	0	64
16	NK6A	0	0	0	21	0	52	2	30	0	0	0	58
17	N6VNI	0	31	0	21	2	31	9	0	0	0	1	58
18	ZL3TE	0	5	3	21	3	29	26	7	0	0	0	54
19	NS6C	12	6	0	18	12	13	9	0	0	0	0	52
20	N6EV	12	7	0	10	0	27	4	0	0	0	0	50
21	WB6DJI	0	0	0	41	0	14	13	0	0	0	0	46
22	K6QU	0	8	0	20	1	9	0	0	0	0	0	28
23	KM6HB	2	7	0	12	5	16	5	6	0	1	0	25
24	N6GP	0	20	0	0	0	9	0	4	0	0	1	25
25	K6YUI	12	0	0	2	2	9	3	1	0	0	1	25
26	KI6RRD	2	4	0	5	6	5	2	6	0	2	1	17
27	N6DBF	0	0	0	12	4	5	0	2	0	0	1	15
28	W6ENZ	0	2	0	8	0	6	1	0	0	0	0	15
29	K9TAD	0	0	0	3	3	9	0	0	0	0	0	15
30	KK6FJQ	0	0	0	5	0	8	0	2	0	0	0	13
31	W6QE	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	11
32	N6HE	0	0	0	2	0	5	8	0	0	0	0	10
33	K6FG	2	5	0	0	0	5	2	0	0	0	1	10
34	AC6DX	0	0	0	8	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	9
35	KR6C	1	1	0	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	8
36	K6DDJ	0	2	0	1	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	6
37	N6RU	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
38	W6SW	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
39	K6RO	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1

Chart Legend	
White / Green	Entity Worked This Year by a Member
Black / White	Very Active Entity Not Yet Worked
Black / Blue	Entity with Announced Dxpedition
Black / Yellow	Rarely Active Entity Not Yet Worked
Black / Red	Inactive Entity
	Deleted Entity

So you say we are at the bottom of the sunspot cycle and DX is not there? Well you must be on the wrong band! To date club members added 38 more countries this month bringing the total to 205. Many of those are not the usual. How about Eritrea, Andaman Island, Lebanon, Sri Lanka, most of Africa, oh yeah... and a new entity, Kosovo. If you look at the chart above note that there are darn few white boxes (entities worked last year) and the red boxes dominate the entities not worked. Look at all the green already! Hopefully the naysayers have been silenced.

Did you miss the ARRL CW DX Contest? Well several did work 100 countries on that weekend. Don't miss the SSB DX Contest this weekend!

Looking at the Club Log leaders we see six US stations in the top 20. These hard chargers combined worked 242 entities in 56 days. Among these six is N6WT (ex- NC6B), Kent. At the last meeting one member commented that a current new member is the hardest working new member he ever witnessed. Kent was the 2017 Clipperton Award winner confirming 211 entities. After 4 years in the hobby Kent with 281 worked and 270 confirmed has joined the ranks of the serious DXers. You can find his call sign at the top of the chart to the left. His rise is nothing but meteoric. In this short period Kent put together a competitive DX contest station, operates in many contests, learned and copies high speed CW, and is learning all the technical aspects of the hobby. Looking at his 2018 count (186) he has averaged 3.3 countries per day compared to the top leaders 4 countries per day. He and Bill, N6WS rank #7 & #9 respectively in North America. Bill, N6WS, our "Associate Member", is at 339 confirmed and is waiting for Glorioso to gloriously appear! N6WS, N6WT, W6TK, WA5VGI, N6RV, N6CA, W6QE, & KK6FJQ all can be found on DX-Chat. Come join them!

38 Countries added to SCDXC Total in February

3A 6W A4 GD KH2 V2 YS
 3D2/R 7X A7 H4 OD V4 ZB2
 4L 9G C9 HV OH0 VP2M
 4X 9K D6 HZ T30 VU4
 5H 9Q EL J8 T8 XU
 5Z 9X EP JY UA2 YL

ARRL DX SSB CONTEST

This weekend is the SSB portion of the ARRL DX Contest. Though not as well represented as the CQWW DX Contest there are many entities active. Not many have been announced!

Here is a band plan to help you find those coveted DX stations.

Right now we have a huge coronal hole on the sun pointing right at Earth. So far there has been no coronal mass ejections. These raise the A index and causes polar absorption and geomagnetic storms. If it happens we will lose both long path and short path to Europe plus terrible propagation to all parts of the world. Hopefully this will pass before Friday. Earlier this week the sun was fairly quiet which, along with the low solar flux index, is conducive to good low band openings and no impairment in the upper bands. The principle bands will be 40 and 20 meters with a few openings on 10 and 15. 80 and 160 may be noisy but there has been current activity there. If you are night owl you may want to look at them.

0000 UTC

Start at the highest band possible. 10 meters most likely will be dead but check. You may catch a few JAs and Pacific stations on 15. Work them quickly as they will be back earlier in the day on Saturday and Sunday.

0100 UTC

The grey line is passing over the Indian Ocean. From this time on there will be long path openings on 20 & 40 to this region and the Middle East. Our grey line begins in an hour. Concentrate on 20 and 40 looking over South America or even further South. The long path openings sometimes only last 15 minutes so you have to move quickly.

0200 UTC

We are entering our grey line period. The sun is setting over California and it is rising over the Middle East. Again this is the best time for long Path. Also start looking for Europe on 40 from now until 0600 UTC. An interesting phenomena is the Northern Europe opening. It occurs later in the evening followed by the openings to Great Britain and Ireland. 20 will be open to the Pacific and Asia. It may last a while though it seems to die out fast. Get it while you can. Also Central and South America will be on 40. They are there all night long peaking up at various times.

0300 - 0500 UTC

40 is in full swing. 20 is probably gone. 80 will come up at the during this period so look for Europe and Africa there as well. Work as many European and African stations as you can on 40 and 80. They disappear as they come into daylight.

0600 - 0900 UTC

As Europe fades Asia starts opening. The Pacific shines through as well. Look on 40 and 80. Again, pick up South and Central America too. The Pacific should be popping in just before the Asia opening as the terminator passes over that region.

1000 - 1200 UTC

This is Asia / Pacific time! 40, 80, and ultimately 160 will be open. Other than the short morning openings and late afternoons this should be your highest rate period. Everybody will be stuffed in the small 40 meter phone segment. Always remember to look in the DX band from 7035 to 7125. You should be dead tired by now!

1300 - 1400 UTC

This is our sunrise. Just a little before sunrise get on 80. This is the best time to work deep Asia and possibly it will be long path. As the sunrises various areas peak. It is also time for long path Europe on 40. The issue is that most of the ones on 40 were worked the night before. Check it to see if you can catch ones you missed last night. 20 meters should be perking up followed by 15 meters.

1500 - 1900 UTC

This is Europe time on 20 and 15 with a possible opening on 10. Actually the 15 meter opening was pretty weak during the CW contest and ten was dead. Sweep out each band starting on 20 and then go to 15 and back to 20. Africa will be lurking also. Don't miss them.

2000 - 0000 UTC

Northern Europe is in on 20 most of this period. Asia and Pacific on 15 and 10 as well as South America and Central America. Right around noon every one jumps on 10 meters. You can work the Caribbean and South America. Otherwise pick up as much on 15 as possible and later go to 20.

The second day is the same as the first except you will be pulling your hair out looking for stations you haven't worked. 20 meters to Africa really roars at the end of the contest but so do the pile ups. Try to catch them early when no one has announced them!

Announced Stations ARRL DX SSB		
8P5A	Barbados	SOAB HP
C6ANM	Bahamas	M/M
FY5KE	French Guiana	M/S
GD9W	Isle of Man	SOSB
HC1DW	Ecuador	
HH2AA	Haiti	SOAB LP
KH6LC	Hawaii	
P40L	Aruba	
PJ0DX	Sint Maarten	
TO3Z	Guadeloupe	
TO5A	Martinique	SOAB HP
V26K	Antigua & Barbuda	SOAB HP
V3	Belize	
V47JA	St Kitts & Nevis	SOAB HP
VP2MMF	Montserrat	SOAB
VP9/W6PH	Bermuda	SOAB LP
Z60A	Kosovo	
ZF2AH	Cayman Is	SOSB 15M
ZF2MJ	Cayman Is	SOAB

Kosovo QSL Card

Martti, OH2BH, asked if we could run an opinion survey on the Kosovo QSL card. This is a rare opportunity to influence the design of a new entity QSL card. Please come to the March meeting and cast your vote for the card you think deserves to represent this momentous occasion. If you cannot make the meeting place your vote by email to

N6RV@SCDXC.org.



Kosovo, The New Entity

Given we have a new DXCC entity it seems appropriate to learn some things about this region and specifically Kosovo.

Geography

The Balkans are a region in southeastern Europe. This large area is bounded by Italy, Austria, Hungary, and Ukraine to the North, the Ionian, Mediterranean, & Aegean Sea to the South, The Black Sea to the East, The Adriatic Sea to the West. Contained in it are the countries formed after the break up of Yugoslavia (Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, & Macedonia) as well as Albania, Greece, Romania, Moldova, Bulgaria, and the European part of Turkey. It is at the crossroads of the Western Europe, Near East and the former Russian Empire.



Kosovo, a former province in Yugoslavia, declared independence in 2008. It is in the middle of this region and serves as an important link between central and southern Europe, the Adriatic Sea, and Black Sea. It is bordered by Albania to the southwest, the Republic of Macedonia to the southeast, Montenegro to the west and the uncontested territory of Serbia to the north and east.

History

Kosovo has been at the intersection of many conflicts over the centuries. In early history the Roman, the Byzantine, Bulgarian and Serbian Empires claimed the region at different times. For a period Kosovo was the center of the Serbian Empire ("Old Serbia"), and the seat of the Serbian Orthodox Church.

The Ottoman Empire absorbed Kosovo in 1445. In 1690 many Christians left the area during the Great Serbian Migration. In 1766 the Ottomans abolished the Orthodox Patriarchate and imposed *jizya*, an oppressive tax, on non-Muslims living in the region.



Albania resisted the Ottomans (Turks) however eventually they accepted Ottoman rule. Under their influence the Albanians converted to Islam giving them greater status in the region. They soon expanded into unpopulated regions of Kosovo, eventually interspersed with the remnant Serbians, and took positions in the government. In the mid-1800s a great deal of tension arose between the ethnic divisions throughout the Balkans which in turn became a division along religious lines pitting Christians and Muslims. Albanian nationalism was on the rise centered in Kosovo. They began to struggle for independence from the Ottoman Empire forming their own nation. This competed with Serbian nationalism. The Serbs were reconstituting the former Serbian Kingdom. The Serbian - Ottoman War of 1876 to 1878 pushed more Albanians out of Serbia into Kosovo.

A coup in 1912 deposed Sultan Abdul Hamid II, the sitting ruler of the Ottoman empire, setting the stage for an Albanian uprising which exposed the empire's northern territories in Kosovo. The Ottomans lost most of its Albanian-inhabited lands to the Albanians who threatened to march all the way to Salonika (Thessaloniki, Greece) and reinstate the Sultan. Many Albanian soldiers in the Ottoman Army defected weakening the ranks. The Balkan League, an alliance formed by Bulgaria, Serbia, Greece and Montenegro overcame the inferior Ottoman Army in the First Balkan War, expelling the Ottoman Empire from Europe. The 1913 Treaty of London divided Kosovo into two regions, Metohija (Western Kosovo) ceded to the Kingdom of Montenegro and Eastern Kosovo ceded to the Kingdom of Serbia. Serbia aggressively re-colonized Kosovo and assimilated the ethnic Albanians into Serbian society striking an ethnic balance.

Up to WWII the Serbs attempted many times to consolidate all of Kosovo even further increasing the Serb population in the region. During WWI, in the winter of 1915, the Serbian army and Kosovo fell to the Bulgarians and Austria-Hungary. Eventually the Allied powers pushed the Central Powers out of the region. Kosovo was first divided into four counties, three Serbian and one Montenegrin, and then into three oblasts. In 1929 the Kingdom of Yugoslavia was formed merging the region. A large scale Serbian re-colonization occurred up to 1941.

Albanians in Kosovo along with other non-Slavic speakers were not allowed to be educated in their own language. The kingdom only recognized the Slavic Croat, Serb, and Slovene states as constituent nations of Yugoslavia, while other Slavs were forced to identify with one of the three. In the mid 1930s nearly a quarter million Albanians were set to forcibly emigrate to Turkey when WWII broke out. During WWII Kosovo and Albania came under the control of Italy. The Serbs fled Kosovo and a large scale migration of Albanians began.

After WWII Yugoslavia came under Communist rule. Again the Albanian and Muslim Slavs were under pressure to emigrate to Turkey. Serbs and Montenegrins were in control of the regional government causing more Albanian unrest. In the 1960s a movement to declare Kosovo an independent republic by the ethnic Albanians was supported by Albania. Through a series of reforms Kosovo gained significant autonomy. The government and police force shifted from Serbian control to Albanian. At the same time the University of Pristina, an Albanian language institution, was formed. The 1974 Constitution of Yugoslavia granted Kosovo almost full autonomy having veto holding seats in Yugoslavia's Parliament. Government administration, assembly and judicial systems came under the control of Kosovo. This reinvigorated Kosovo nationalism and they pushed again to be a constituent republic like Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro. This insulted the Serbians who saw Kosovo as the birthplace of their country. The situation escalated into large protests which were crushed by Yugoslav defense forces. The Communist Party was purged and most of the freedoms given to Kosovo were rescinded including the University and any education in the Albanian language.

Albanians out birthed the Serbs and again Serbs began to leave the region. Albanians were wrongfully accused of genocide which resulted in the loss of Kosovo autonomy. Protests reignited which were met with violent suppression. When Yugoslavia began to break up Slobodan Milosevic asserted this mistreatment would be stopped. He began through intimidation and political maneuvering to weaken Kosovo's autonomy. Kosovo Albanians formed a separate government with parallel educational, tax, and health systems. In 1990 they formed the Republic of Kosova declaring independence in 1992. It was only recognized by Albania. By 1995 ethnic tensions rose exacerbated by the exclusion of Kosovo in the Dayton Agreement and the formation of the guerrilla paramilitary group; The Kosovo Liberation Army which vied for a Greater Albania which included Kosovo. They attacked the Yugoslav Army and Serbian police in Kosovo precipitating the Kosovo War. The first negotiated cease fire failed and fighting raged on until the Racak Massacre in 1998 caught worldwide attention. An agreement was drafted restoring Kosovo's autonomy. The Yugoslav delegation refused to sign. NATO bombed Yugoslavia forcing Milosevic to withdraw the forces from Kosovo. Through this period roughly 1,000,000 Albanians were driven from Kosovo. 11,000 were murdered and several are still reported "missing". At the same time nearly 100,000 Serbian civilians were expelled and some were abused. In 1999 the Russian Army rolled into Kosovo to protect the Serbian minority in the region. The war came to a slow end. Attacks on Kosovo Serbians continued until 2004.

After the war the UN placed Kosovo under transitional UN administration and authorized the NATO led peacekeepers, Kosovo Force. The UN also passed a resolution granting Kosovo autonomy within Yugoslavia. In 2006 there were negotiations to determine the status of Kosovo. A resolution was drafted proposing "supervised independence". The Russians pressed for revisions that would assure Kosovo sovereignty. This fell through.

Kosovo Independence

Kosovo declared independence on Feb. 17, 2008. All of its neighbors except Serbia recognized the new state. They became members of the IMF and World Bank.



Serbia went to the UN General Assembly for a resolution to ask the International Court of Justice to render an opinion on the legality of Kosovo's declared independence. The non-legally binding opinion indicated that Kosovo's declaration was not in violation of international law. The UN did not decide on the Kosovo's status. The extrinsic forces, Russia and Serbia, still maintain enough power to block recognition. A second government formed by the Serbian minority in Kosovo also claims legitimacy. It was condemned by Kosovo's president and does not have a role in the their government.

The history of the region lends perspective to a people who have struggled for centuries against oppression, who truly revere and love the ideals of liberty and freedom. It is not surprising that they count America as a strong ally both physically and ideologically.

The People

Most Kosovars are Muslim yet they are very different from the Middle Eastern states. They think like Europeans. They are pro-American and Israel. The country is not recognized by any Arab state. 90 percent are ethnic Albanians and 7 percent Serbian. Among the Muslims there is no gender apartheid. Women are found in all levels of government and industry. They work side by side with their male counterparts. Their attire is European.

The cultural roots of Albanians lie in pre-Christian Greece and Illyria (NW Balkans). At the dawn of Christianity, during the time of the Apostles, Albanians were among the first to convert. Islam was imposed upon them by the Ottoman empire in the mid -1400s. Many converted to avoid paying the oppressive taxes. Albanians are regarded as non-Christian by the Greeks and non-Muslim by the Turks. In fact the Albanians regard Christianity as part of their heritage, calling themselves cultural Christians.

Wahhabism, the radical Arab teaching of Islam, is attempting to make its way into Kosovo however Albanians do not accept totalitarianism from any quarter especially the backward authoritarian Arab world. They just broke free from centuries of rule by other dictatorial regimes. Kosovars call Wahhabis in their country *Binladensa* after Bin Laden and it is not a compliment.

Albanians refused to surrender Jews to the Nazis during WWII nor do they stand against Israel with the Arab states. They consider it an anathema to do so. Mordechai Arbell, chairman of the World Jewish Congress Institute, once said at the Tirana conference-"Albanians can teach the world how people can live in harmony between religions and nations and how they can save each other." Truly this is a moderate pluralistic society.

The New Entity

On January 23, 2018, the ARRL Board of Directors approved a motion to amend the DXCC Rules recognizing a separate entity if, in addition to previous conditions, the entity has a separate IARU member society and is included on the US State Department Independent States in the World. Since Kosovo satisfies both conditions it was added to the DXCC list.

Several operations from Kosovo have transpired recognized only as Yugoslavia. The rule change may have some underpinnings in how the DXAC viewed this new state. It is no wonder that immediately Kosovo was on the air by a team of seasoned DXers celebrating this day. Also it is little wonder that this occurred near the 10th anniversary of Kosovo's independence. Actually, the team has been working with SHRAK (Shoqata E Radio Amatoreve Te Kosoves), the Kosovo Amateur Radio Society for years training and mentoring new hams.



Starting January 23rd the team consisting of DL3DXX, OH0XX, OH1MA, OH2BH, OH3JR, OZ1IKY, S50A and S51F, K9JF, VE7NY, IK0FVC, G3TXF, DL3DXX, DL5CW, DJ5IW, DM5TI, DD2ML, S57AW, ES2RR, and PB2T along with locals Z61DX, Z61FF, Z61VB, Z62FB and Z63DBB hit the ground running and racked up 81,000 QSOs with operations ending on Feb. 18th. They were active in both the ARRL CW DX Contest and the WPX RTTY Contest.

Locals, Finnish, Danish, and Slovenian hams built sites throughout the city where noise and interference were less prevalent.

OG2M, OH2BH, and OH3JR will be operating Z60A on February 28th and will be active in the ARRL DX SSB Contest.

Several individual hams and companies have contributed equipment to SHRAK, and to individual Kosovar hams. Stations are being assembled and new hams are motivated to get on the air. We will be seeing a lot of activity soon. Welcome them to our community!



The 2018 International DX Convention at Visalia



K9JF



N7QT



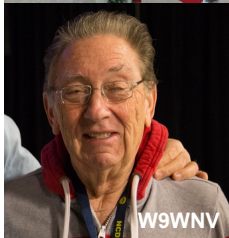
K4ZW



Z61VB



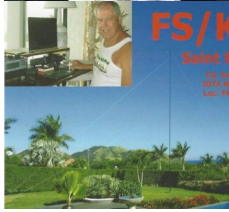
ET3AA



K0MD



W6YA



FS/K9EL



LA7GIA



2016 IARU HF World Championship



VK9MA

April 20, 21, 22

We are off and running! The committee has met three times and the next meeting will be one month before the convention. The programs have been firmed up and vendors are getting in line. It will be a packed room. Furthermore the hallway will be filled with DXpedition tables and the various organizations (NCDXC, SCDXC, SDDXC, NCDXF etc.). The convention begins on Friday with several presentations and exhibits. The prize budget has been increased 25% and we are really beating the bushes to get the best prizes possible!

There is still time to grab a room, register, and join the fun!

Programs

Banquet: Kosovo Z60A - Jim Fenstermaker, K9JW
Breakfast: Mellish Reef VK9MA - Robert Fanfant, N7QT

DX Forum - Wayne Mills, N7NG
Contest Forum - Scott Wright, K0MD
Ham Forum - Mark Weiss, K6FG
YL Forum - Gayle Olson, K6GO

Friday

RFI Solutions - Bob Brehm, AK6R
Using WSPRLite for Comparing HF Antenna Performance - Bill Mader, K8TE
High Performance Receive Antennas for 160 & 80 - Tim Duffy, K3LR
Remote Access to your station: Latest developments - Mark Aaker, K6UFO
Learning Morse Code "after puberty" - Bob Carter, WR7Q
APRS and Satellites/Space Station - Robert McHale, KE6BLR

Saturday

Radiosport 2.0 - Lightning Ideas and Views - Ward Silver, N0AX
DXpeditions Old School - Don Miller, W9WNV
Getting to 3000 on the DXCC Challenge - Ned Stearns, AA7A
Remote Operation with SMARTLINK - Dr. Howard White, KY6LA
9M0W Spratly Island - Dave Jorgensen, WD5COV
The Very Early Days of MFJ - Martin F Jue, K5FLU
Grounding and Bonding - Ward Silver, N0AX
The ET3AA Story - Ken Claerbout, K4ZW
Vietnam War US Army Hams - Dennis Vernacchia, N6KI
Saint Martin and Sunspots - John Sweeney, K9EL
6060 Somalia - Adrian Ciuperca, KO8SCA
Amateur Radio Diplomacy - Paul Ewing, N6PSE
The Deleted Entities Chase, Part 2 - Jim McCook, W6YA



Z60A



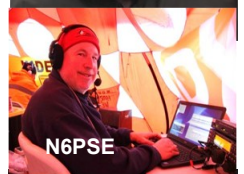
MFJ



N6KI



AA7A



N6PSE



N0AX



6060 KO8SCA

TID BITS

The Memorable Twelve

The convention committee has been working with Martti Lane, OH2BH, to bring Vjollca Belagu-Caka, Z61VB from Kosovo to Visalia. In our correspondence Martti called Kosovo his "Last Show on Broadway". He has activated what he calls the Memorable Twelve New Entities. He stated that maybe a dozen is the limit for one person to activate. Martti, we certainly hope not. It is better to burn out than fade away. Grab Don Miller and make a never ending tour.



FOR SALE: ALPHA 8410

Alpha 8410 for sale in mint and working condition. There are no issues. It produces full output power. Very little use over the last four years.

Operates 1.8-30 MHz using a pair of 4CX-1000A's. Purchased new Oct 2011. Ser. No.841011370272. Never any issues. Photos available.

Price is \$3,300.00 dollars, shipping extra. This is a very heavy item, so I prefer local pick-up or I can deliver within 100 miles or bring to the IDXC in Visalia

As new condition. Original factory boxes, manual. USPS Money Order or Bank Cashiers check.

Thanks

Don Minkoff, NK6A
310-482-9582 cell

Bird Poop Island (NA6Z)

Don's wife actually found this article on hams going to Baker Island.

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/baker-island-ham-radio-expedition-2018>

TID BITS

Lawrence of Torrance is Back!!

In short order our past president Larry, K6RO, snagged a free MA40 and antenna, assembled a killer team (or is it half dead old dudes? ... except Stephan), and put up a C3SS for 20-10 and an Alpha Delta DX-B for 40-160. It will take some tweaking on the DX-B but he us on the air in PVE!



Do You Remember Revell Models?

Here is an interesting article about two Revell models. Notice the name of the designer.

<http://www.scalemodelnews.com/2012/03/rocket-engineer-who-designed-revell-xsl.html>

TID BITS

Top of ClubLog!!

Recently the board rejected a motion to qualify Full Members every year. It was proposed that Full Members should work at least 100 entities in the prior year. The board rejected this proposal because “it would be too difficult” and “people would quit”. The proposal was tongue in cheek. Surely, arm twisting is no way to encourage past DXers to become involved in the hobby again.

Looking at last years Get Schroeder Contest we see that only 26 members worked more than 100 entities in 2017. In 2018 nine members already exceed that number. This upcoming weekend is the ARRL SSB DX Contest. Certainly there will be a few more who post over a 100 worked next week.

Maybe it is too difficult to work 100 entities in a year. Of course, the new members who just achieved DXCC may think this would be daunting and understandably so. Furthermore there are those who no longer have a station. Yes, there are extenuating circumstances however, those long of tooth members who just cannot bring themselves to turn on the radio because they are “too busy” should consider the consequences of their inactivity. We should take heed to the admonishment of the old 30s song and “Turn your radio on”. You may be surprised at the activity from all parts of the world. You may even be surprised you can still copy code!

On a refreshing note, Associate Member but Senior Fellow of The School of DXing, Bill Shell, N6WS, was at the top of the ClubLog Global standings for the 2 week period from 2018-02-04 to 2018-02-18. In fact he tied Z60A for the most number of entities worked in that period. The next day Bill passed the Kosovo operators. Currently Bill is at 179 and Kent, N6WT, is at 186. They are among the very active members who frequent DX-Chat Accessible almost every day they mentor anyone interested in learning the art of DXing. You could say they are the most active hams in SCDXC and they are practicing what we preach. Many of their neighbors stop by and ask for help with everything from software to nuts... well antennas. If you look at SCDXC on Club Log you will see the gang from up north (GUNS) populate the top. In fact a relative newbie to the hobby is schooling everyone!

In any event, if we are going to attract new DXers shouldn't we too be practicing what we preach or are we going to mentor newbies in the art of inactivity? How about relocating the meeting venue to Santa Maria?

Most active callsigns

For QSOs logged in the period 2018-02-04 to 2018-02-18

Callsign	DXCCs	QSOs
 Z60A	135	24,824
 N6WS ★	135	600
 LY3W	130	622
 S52D ★	129	1,752
 JA4DND	129	334
 DK7DU	128	393
 JA4LKB ★	127	633
 JE1FQV	127	250
 N2BJ	123	2,473
 G3PXT	122	1,662

Resource Page

Useful DX Sites

N0HR DXpedition Map
www.n0hr.com/wk34/

The DX Zone
www.dxzone.com/catalog/DX_Resources/

The Daily DX
www.dailydx.com/

Announced DX Ops
www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html

DXing.info
www.dxing.info/dxpeditons/

DX 425 News
www.425dxn.org/dxped/

Dx-info.de
www.dx-info.de

DX Italia DX News

Propagation

Life as a Bottom Feeder

Well we are living on the bottom! What is it like? 40 and 30 meters are the active bands. 20 is also going well. You can work just about anywhere on these bands. 17 and 15 shows some life even short openings to Europe on 15. 10 and 12 meters are open for a few minutes each day. The scores on 10 meters during the ARRL contest a few weeks back were dismal. Asking Lee Wical, KH6BZF, during the last minimum to QSY up to 10 meters during the CQWW DX contest, he said he will be there as soon as the SFI rose above 90. Well, that didn't happen. In fact, even with the numbers in the 60s & 70s Hawaii was booming on 10 meters this year. It seems that in a decade more hams are testing the waters rather than relying on past conjecture regarding what is open at the minimum. Again, during the last minimum there was a 10 meter opening to JA in one of the contests. Several competitors missed Japan, Malaysia and Korea that year! 10 meters does have Sporadic E openings during the same season as 6 meters, around sunset and midnight. If 6 is open 10 is more likely open too. What other openings could be lurking?

Don't forget that ARRL SSB DX Contest this weekend. Stir up the bands!

ARRL VE Exam Sessions

To find an ARRL exam sessions in your area go to the website:

<http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session>

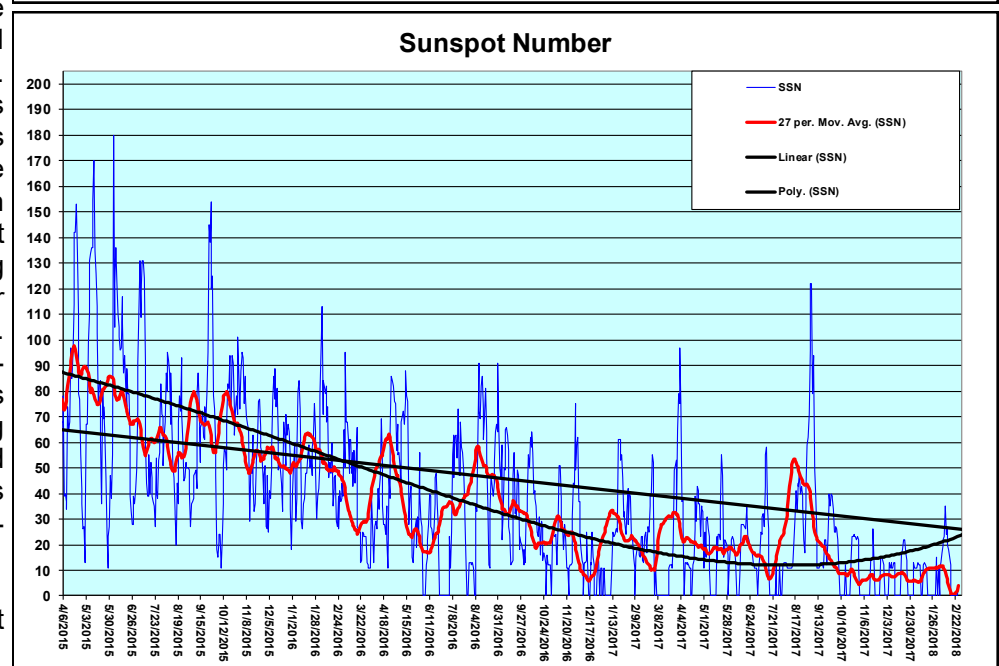
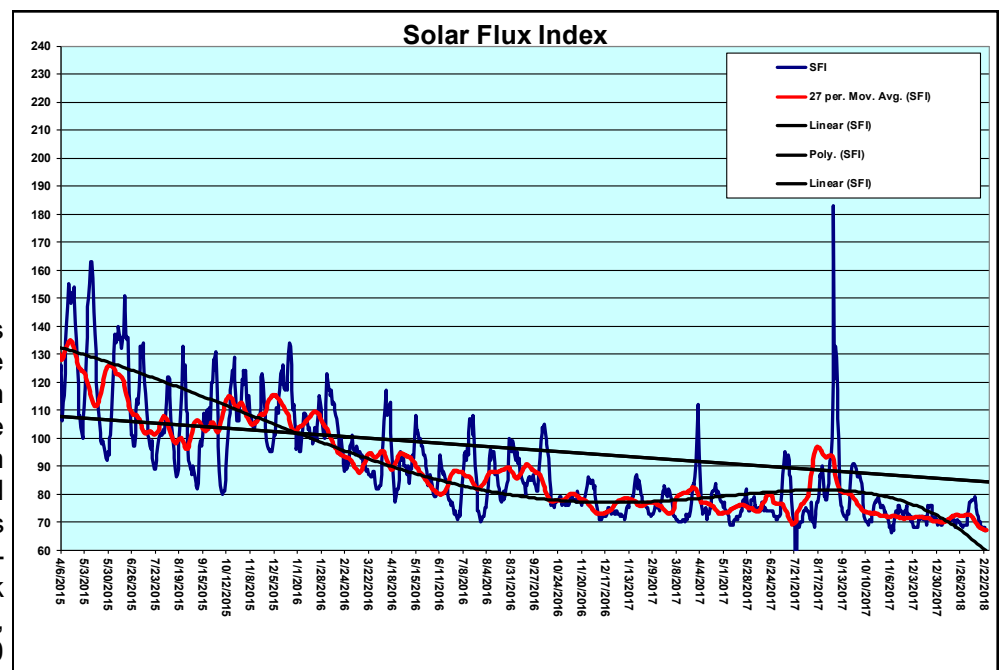
Club and Conduct Sites

Officer Guidelines

http://www.scdxc.org/download/Officer_Guidelines.pdf

DX Code of Conduct

<http://www.dx-code.org/>





Store	E-mail	Direct	Toll Free	Fax
Anaheim	ana@hamradio.com	1-714-533-7373	1-800-854-6046	1-714-533-9485
Burbank	bnk@hamradio.com	1-818-842-1786	1-800-854-6046	1-818-842-5283
San Diego	sd@hamradio.com	1-858-560-4900	1-800-854-6046	1-858-560-1705

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